



Name: _____

Mapping **Counties**

People, Places, and Numbers

Below are some populations from different counties. Write each number in standard form. (Hint: use what you know about place value.) Then use the We Count! map to find out which county has that same population. Circle the right one. We've done the first one for you!

1. Two thousand, one hundred twenty-one 2,121

Vaifanua**Faleasao****Tualatai**

2. Three hundred fifty-three _____

Ofu**Sua****Ituau**

3. Fourteen thousand, seven hundred twenty-four _____

Ma'oputasi**Leasina****Tualauta**

4. One thousand, six hundred forty-three _____

Fitiuta**Sa'ole****Leasina**

5. In which county do you live? _____

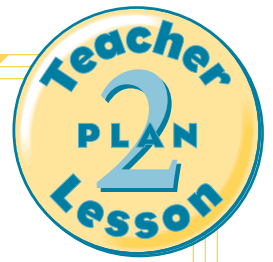
How many people live in your county? _____

How many thousand people? _____

How many hundred people? _____



Map Literacy



OUR CHANGING ISLANDS

A History of the Census in American Samoa

Grades 5-12

Skills and Objectives:

- Students will learn about the census, why it is important, and how it is beneficial to the residents of American Samoa.

Suggested Groupings:

Small groups, individuals

Getting Started:

Ask students to guess the answers to the following questions about American Samoa. 1. **What is the population of American Samoa?** (46,773, based on 1990 census) 2. **Are there more males or females in American Samoa?** (males — 24,023; females — 22,750, based on 1990 census) 3. **What is the median age of the population in American Samoa?** (20.9, based on 1990 census) 4. **What was the population of American Samoa when it became part of the U.S. in 1900?** (5,679) Have students give their answers, writing some on the board, then give them the correct answers. Tell students that we can know these answers through data collected by the census. The U.S. Census Bureau conducts a complete count of all the people living in American Samoa every 10 years. The information collected by the census includes the population of our islands, as well as people's ages, education, and occupations, etc.

- Explain to students that the first population estimate in what is now American Samoa was taken in 1831 with the arrival of European missionaries, who recorded a population of 37,000. There are records of nine additional censuses and estimates taken between then and 1900, when naval governors, under the direction of the United States Naval administration, collected population information until 1912. In 1920, American Samoa was included in the U.S. decennial census for the first time. Census 2000 marks the ninth U.S. decennial census in which American Samoa has participated.

Using the Activity Worksheets:

- Photocopy and distribute the Activity Worksheet (page 10) and maps (pages 9 and 28), along with

Chalkboard Definitions

census: a count of a population in a given area.

confidential: private or secret.

decennial: occurring every 10 years.

data: factual information.

county: a legal subdivision of American Samoa established by the government of American Samoa.

“Census at a Glance” (page 8).

- Review “Census at a Glance” (page 8) and discuss with students why the census is so important.

- Explain that they will be working in groups of four or fewer to solve the word puzzle on page 10.

Wrapping Up:

- Review the students' answers to the questions on page 10 and discuss them in class. Use these answers to initiate a discussion about population trends in American Samoa and how they influence the islands' future.

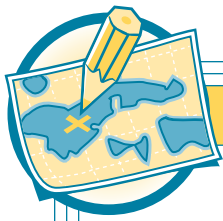
Extension Activity:

Ask students to write their own questions based on the maps (pages 9 and 28) and/or the population table (page 10). Then have them exchange questions with their classmates and research the answers. Grades 9-12: Have students review the history of their county. Ask: **When was the county established? Have its boundaries changed over time? What factors have affected the population growth of the county?** To answer these questions, students will need census information for American Samoa and their county. Have them start with a visit to their local or school library.

Answers:

Page 10:

1. Cape Taputapu
2. Western
3. Manu'a
4. Swains Island
5. Ma'oputasi
6. Rose Island
7. Census
8. Significant immigration from Western Samoa coupled with a relatively high fertility rate were mainly responsible for this unprecedented population growth.



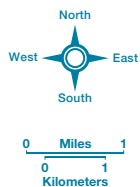
Name: _____

Census at a Glance

- The U.S. Census is mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, which requires an enumeration of the population of the United States every 10 years.
- Title 13 of the United States Code gives the Secretary of Commerce, subject to the concurrence of the Secretary of State, the authority to include American Samoa in the United States decennial census.
- On March 27, 2000, the U.S. Postal Service will deliver questionnaires called Advance Census Reports (ACRs) to every household in American Samoa. ACRs ask for information about every person living in every household. A few days before the ACR arrives, each household will receive an advance letter alerting them to its delivery. Each household will be asked to complete the questionnaire and hold it until a census worker picks it up on or soon after March 31, 2000. If the ACR is not complete when the census worker arrives, then he or she will help complete it by conducting a personal interview.
- All individual information collected for the census is confidential. Census workers can be fined and/or jailed for releasing this information, and the Census Bureau itself is forbidden by law from sharing such information with other government agencies.
- The first census of the United States was taken in 1790. The first U.S. decennial census in American Samoa was taken in 1920. American Samoa became a part of the United States in 1900 as a result of the Spanish-American War.
- In addition to taking a complete count of the population, the U.S. Census Bureau also collects information about housing, age, marital status, education, and economic indicators.
- The census is important because the information obtained from the form helps federal and local governments determine where new roads, parks, schools, hospitals, and other services are needed. A new school and library, for example, could be built in your neighborhood based on data indicating a large increase in the number of school-age children living there.
- The U.S. Census Bureau plans long in advance for every census. While conducting a census, the Census Bureau is already planning for the next census, even though it is 10 years away.
- Census day is April 1, 2000: All people living in the U.S. and its territories on this day are included in the official count.



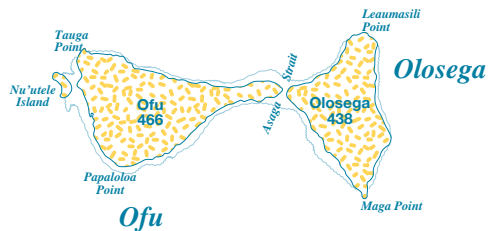
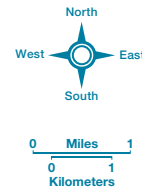
1930 Population of American Samoa



Swains Island
99



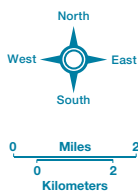
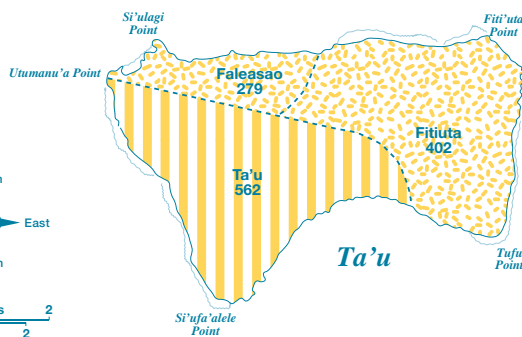
Rose Island
0



Manu'a District
2,147

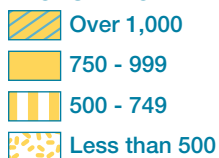
SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN

Manu'a Islands



MAP KEY

COUNTY POPULATION

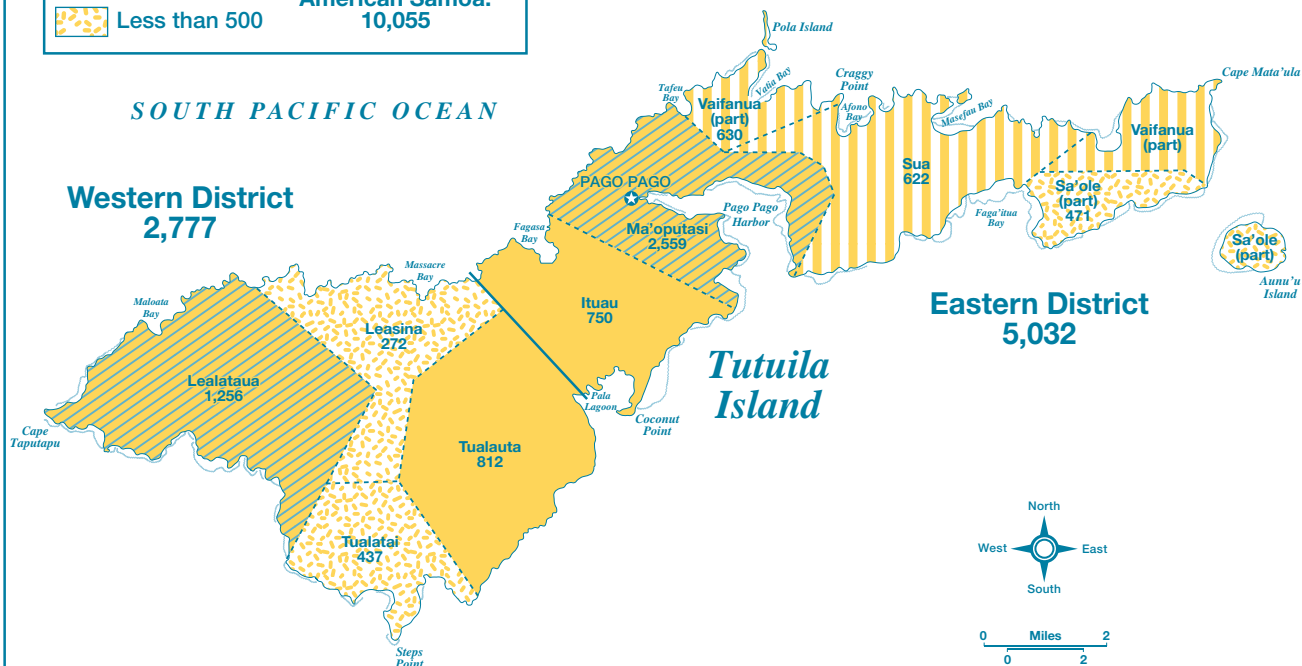


- Capital
- County Boundary
- District Boundary

1930 Population of American Samoa:
10,055

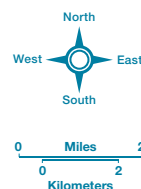
SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN

Western District
2,777



Eastern District
5,032

Tutuila Island



All information on this map is based on 1930 Census data.



Name: _____

A History of the Census in American Samoa

To answer the following questions and solve the word puzzle, you'll need to compare the 1930 and 1990 population maps of American Samoa.

1. Where would you find the westernmost point of American Samoa?

○ _____

2. Which district gained the most population since 1930? _____ ○ _____

3. Which district has lost population since 1930? _____ ○ _____

4. This island's population has dropped considerably since 1930:

○ _____

5. This was the most populous county in 1930: _____ ' _____ ○ _____

6. This island is uninhabited: _____ ○ _____

7. What do the circled letters spell? _____

POPULATION HISTORY OF AMERICAN SAMOA, 1831-1990

1831	37,000	1879	5,100	1940	12,908
1839	10,000	1881	7,000	1950	18,937
1849	5,000	1900	5,679	1960	20,051
1853	4,664	1912	7,251	1970	27,159
1863	4,871	1920	8,056	1980	32,297
1869	4,881	1930	10,055	1990	46,773

NOTE: European missionaries and other early visitors made population estimates and took censuses prior to 1900. The naval governor took the census in 1900 and 1912. The U.S. decennial census program has included American Samoa since 1920.

The table above shows the history of population growth for American Samoa since 1831, which reflects important changes and events that have taken place on our islands. Using your knowledge of the history of American Samoa, try to answer the following questions. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

8. The population on American Samoa increased by nearly 50% between 1980 and 1990. What accounts for this increase?